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1 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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3 AUTOMATED PURCHASING AGENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

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5 A system and method of automating and managing bids within the context  
6 of an Internet auction is disclosed. The present invention permits continuous  
7 monitoring and verification of auctions on the Internet based on criterion such as  
8 highest bid on an item, maximum permissible bid, and a restriction on the  
9 number of successful bids in the auctions by any given participant (0109). The  
10 present invention permits embodiments incorporating an auction profile database  
11 (0101) that is generated by an auction profile configuration tool (0102) to act as  
12 input to an item search manager (0104) that takes data from an item database  
13 (0105) and control from an item selector (0103) to then interact with an auction  
14 bid controller (0106) that communicates with the remote auction site via an  
15 auction command interface (0107).

16 In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, an  
17 information processing system and computer readable storage medium is  
18 disclosed for carrying out the above method.

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